

**Question for written answer E-000219/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Where do we stand on the integration of the mining sector into European taxonomy and the ecological risks brought about by the energy transition?

As part of the Green Deal and in line with the announcement to eliminate combustion engines by 2035, there are 38 projects in place for European 'gigafactories' to provide batteries for electric cars in the next decade. According to the Varin report, however, '(only) 20 to 30% of needs' for nickel, lithium or cobalt required for batteries 'could be produced by European suppliers' in 2030.

Vice-President of the Commission Maroš Šefčovič, who is responsible for the launch of the EU Battery Alliance, said that Europe will need 18 times more lithium by 2030 and up to 60 times more by 2050. Moreover, the IRIS has also pointed out the delays in supply from China, and a recent IMF report concluded that the prices of the metals in question are expected to surge by several hundred percent over the next eight years.

1. In view of this situation, is the integration of the mining sector into the European taxonomy an option?
2. Does the Commission consider the ecological risks caused by the extensive use of the aforementioned metals and the policy of fast-track conversion from internal combustion engines to electric motors to be negligible?